

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference CFO17422WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP 03 / 09432	International filing date (day/month/year) 25.07.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 25.07.2002	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int.Cl H04N1/00, H04L12/56			
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of **3** sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. a total of _____ sheets, as follows:

sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____ containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

Box No. I Basis of the report

Box No. II Priority

Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Box No. VI Certain documents cited

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 17.02.2004	Date of completion of this report 18.10.2004
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP Japan Patent Office	Authorized officer Seiji Teshima
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Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (January 2004)	

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/JP 03 / 09432

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages _____
- the claims, Nos. _____
- the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- the sequence listing (specify): _____
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- the description, pages _____
- the claims, Nos. _____
- the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- the sequence listing (specify): _____
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1 - 6</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1 - 6</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1 - 6</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

D1: THOMSON,S., and NARTEN,T. Request for Comments 2462 IPv6 Stateless Autoconfiguration. The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)[online], December 1998[retrieved on 2003-10-22].
 D2: US 5987494 A(BROTHER KOGYO KK.) 1999.11.16

Claims 1-6

The subject matter of claims 1-6 is neither disclosed in any of the documents D1,D2 cited in the ISR nor obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Claims 1,2

The subject matter of claims 1,2 is considered to involve an inventive step over the documents D1,D2 cited in the ISR.

None of the prior art documents cited in the ISR describes IP address generating means, connected to an IPv6 router on a network, for acquiring prefix information from said IPv6 router and generating an IP address unique to each of the plurality of image processing functions on the basis of the acquired prefix information.

Claims 3-6

The subject matter of claims 3-6 is considered to involve an inventive step over the documents D1,D2 cited in the ISR.

None of the prior art documents cited in the ISR describes an IP address generating step of establishing a connection to an IPv6 router on a network, acquiring prefix information from said IPv6 router and generating an IP address unique to each of the plurality of image processing functions on the basis of the acquired prefix information.